

PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE

DATE: July 9, 2009

CALLED TO ORDER: 5:30 p.m.

ADJOURNED: 6:34 p.m.

ATTENDANCE

ATTENDING MEMBERS

Benjamin Hunter, Chair
Brian Mahern
Dane Mahern
Angela Mansfield
Janice McHenry
Mary Moriarty Adams
Christine Scales

ABSENT MEMBERS

Ginny Cain
Mike Speedy

AGENDA

PROPOSAL NO. 132, 2009 - amends the Code to add a new Article VI in Chapter 261 establishing a Green Fleet Policy
"Postponed" until August 20, 2009

Vote: 7-0

PROPOSAL NO. 172, 2009 - authorizes one-way restrictions on Waldemere Avenue and Alley 1175 South (District 13)
"Postponed" until August 20, 2009

Vote: 7-0

PROPOSAL NO. 213, 2009 - authorizes intersection controls at Fairfax Road and Harlan Street (District 24)
"Do Pass"

Vote: 7-0

PROPOSAL NO. 218, 2009 - amends the Code to provide for motorcycle parking meter spaces
"Table"

Vote: 5-2

PROPOSAL NO. 238, 2009 - approves a transfer of \$900,000 in the 2009 Budget of the Department of Public Works (Consolidated County Fund) to fund maintenance and repair costs for the City-County's vehicle fleet
"Do Pass"

Vote: 7-0

PROPOSAL NO. 239, 2009 - establishes that the Council is interested in acquiring a real estate right-of-way and perpetual easement owned by ABC Petroleum, Inc. for a roadway improvement project on 10th Street

"Strike"

Vote: 7-0

PROPOSAL NO. 240, 2009 - establishes that the Council is interested in acquiring real estate rights-of-way owned by Baird & Young, L.L.C. for a roadway improvement project on South Emerson Avenue

"Strike"

Vote: 7-0

PROPOSAL NO. 241, 2009 - establishes that the Council is interested in acquiring real estate rights-of-way owned by Jiries Ishak for a roadway improvement project on South Emerson Avenue

"Strike"

Vote: 7-0

PROPOSAL NO. 242, 2009 - establishes that the Council is interested in acquiring real estate rights-of-way owned by Jenco Investments, LLC for a roadway improvement project on South Emerson Avenue

"Strike"

Vote: 7-0

PROPOSAL NO. 243, 2009- approves and authorizes execution of an agreement between the City of Indianapolis and Hamilton County, Indiana, for the exercise of eminent domain authority and the construction of highway and drainage improvements in Marion and Hamilton Counties

"Postponed" until July 30, 2009

Vote: 7-0

PROPOSAL NO. 244, 2009 - authorizes school day parking restrictions on the north and south sides of Julian Avenue (District 21)

"Do Pass"

Vote: 7-0

PROPOSAL NO. 245, 2009 - authorizes a change in parking restrictions on Pennsylvania Street between Ohio Street and New York Street (District 15)

"Do Pass"

Vote: 7-0

PROPOSAL NO. 246, 2009 - authorizes intersection controls in the Orchard Valley Farms subdivision, Sections 4 and 5 (District 18)

"Do Pass"

Vote: 7-0

PROPOSAL NO. 247, 2009 - authorizes intersection controls in the Cheswick Place subdivision, Sections 1 and 2A (Districts 7, 8)

"Do Pass"

Vote: 7-0

PROPOSAL NO. 248, 2009 - authorizes a multi-way stop at the intersection of Beulah Avenue and Legrande Avenue (District 19)

"Do Pass"

Vote: 7-0

PROPOSAL NO. 249, 2009 - authorizes a multi-way stop at the intersection of Patton and Suburban Drives (District 7)
"Do Pass" Vote: 7-0

PROPOSAL NO. 250, 2009 - authorizes intersection controls in the Copeland Mills Estates subdivision (District 22)
"Do Pass" Vote: 7-0

PROPOSAL NO. 251, 2009 - authorizes intersection controls in the Camby Village Triplex subdivision (District 22)
"Do Pass" Vote: 7-0

PROPOSAL NO. 252, 2009 - authorizes intersection controls in the Cedar Park subdivision, Sections 1 and 2 (District 22)
"Do Pass" Vote: 7-0

PROPOSAL NO. 253, 2009 - authorizes intersection controls at the intersection of Camby Village Boulevard and Kentucky Avenue (District 22)
"Do Pass" Vote: 7-0

PROPOSAL NO. 254, 2009 - authorizes changes in parking and parking meter zones on Meridian Street between 9th and St. Joseph Streets and on St. Joseph Street between Meridian and Scioto Streets (District 15)
"Postponed" until July 30, 2009 Vote: 7-0

PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE

The Public Works Committee of the City-County Council met on Thursday, July 9, 2009. Chairman Benjamin Hunter called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. with the following members present: Brian Mahern, Dane Mahern, Angela Mansfield, Janice McHenry, Mary Moriarty Adams, and Christine Scales. Ginny Cain and Mike Speedy were absent. Councillor Ed Coleman was also in attendance.

PROPOSAL NO. 132, 2009 - amends the Code to add a new Article VI in Chapter 261 establishing a Green Fleet Policy

Councillor Dane Mahern moved, seconded by Councillor Moriarty Adams, to "Postpone" Proposal No. 132, 2009 until August 20, 2009. The motion carried by a vote of 7-0.

PROPOSAL NO. 172, 2009 - authorizes one-way restrictions on Waldemere Avenue and Alley 1175 South (District 13)

Chair Hunter said that he had spoke with Councillor Bob Lutz, and Councillor Lutz asked to "Postpone" Proposal No. 172, 2009 until August 20, 2009. Councillor Dane Mahern moved, seconded by Councillor McHenry, to "Postpone" Proposal No. 172, 2009 until August 20, 2009. The motion carried by a vote of 7-0.

PROPOSAL NO. 213, 2009 - authorizes intersection controls at Fairfax Road and Harlan Street (District 24)

Chair Hunter asked Nathan Sheets, Sr. Project Manager, Department of Public Works (DPW), if this proposal has the approval of the sponsoring Councillor. Mr. Sheets answered in the affirmative.

Councillor Dane Mahern moved, seconded by Councillor Moriarty Adams, to send Proposal No. 213, 2009 to the full Council with a "Do Pass" recommendation. The motion carried by a vote of 7-0.

PROPOSAL NO. 218, 2009 - amends the Code to provide for motorcycle parking meter spaces

Councillor Coleman said he submitted this proposal because a number of motorcycle enthusiasts had contacted him about parking spaces downtown. He said they told him that other states designate spaces for motorcycle parking, and he is asking for the designation of six parking spots south of Market Street, mostly on Pennsylvania Street. He said this proposal will convert one regular parking spot to three motorcycle parking spots. Councillor Coleman said he has a concern that motorcyclists will be charged the same price for motorcycle parking as the city charges for vehicles. He thought the charge should be half of what is charged to park a car since the motorcycles do not take up a lot of space. He said this also became an issue as a result of high gas prices, because a lot of people began to ride their motorcycles. He said this will allow a motorcyclist the ease of parking on city streets, instead of finding a garage.

Councillor Dane Mahern said he has a lot of questions about this proposal, and he may ask to "Postpone" Proposal No. 218, 2009 if he cannot get all of his questions answered. He asked if DPW has done any studies about the cost to install the extra meters and remove the ones that are in place now. Mr. Sheets said they have not looked at installation costs, but if the parking spots are used throughout the day, the overall cost may be offset. Mr. Sheets said the maximum daily revenue would be \$8.00, but he does not know the overall cost to install the meters.

Councillor Dane Mahern said that installing meters is expensive, and the city may not have meters readily available. Mr. Sheets said they do have a large stock of meters due to the replacement of faulty meters, but he does not know how much they have on hand for installation. Mr. Sheets said that for every vehicular meter they lose, they would gain three motorcycles for that space.

Councillor Dane Mahern asked Mr. Sheets how much input DPW has received from Indianapolis Downtown, Inc.(IDI), and other organizations in the downtown area. Mr. Sheets said that Fred Laughlin, Vice President of Management Services for IDI, is in attendance. Mr. Laughlin said he knew about the ordinance being introduced, but has not had any consultation on it. Mr. Laughlin said he does not think it is a bad idea, but it deserves some further study. He said he would like to see group space that is not currently being used designated for motorcycles, instead of taking away vehicular spaces. He said the area in consideration is pretty full during the day. Councillor Dane Mahern asked if there are available spots that can be used, instead of taking away existing spots. Mr. Sheets said they can review that information, and work with Councillor Coleman and IDI on identifying possible parking. Councillor Dane Mahern said he is not against the proposal, but he would like to get more information.

Councillor Scales asked Councillor Coleman if the purpose of this proposal is to increase revenue and provide convenience to motorcycle riders. Councillor Coleman said he is doing it as a nice gesture for another class of citizens that do not get recognized. Councillor Scales asked if this proposal would exclude motorcyclists from parking in vehicular spaces. Councillor Coleman said if these spots are clearly marked, then it would encourage motorcyclists to park in their designated space.

Councillor McHenry asked Councillor Coleman if two motorcycles can park in one spot. Councillor Coleman said only one motorcycle can park in a space, or they will get ticketed. Councillor Mansfield said she could see implementing designated parking spots for motorcyclists if Indianapolis had a more tempered climate. She said she likes the idea of looking for spaces where more parking can be created. Councillor Mansfield said that there may need to be changes to the ordinance as well, because she cannot understand multiple motorcycles being ticketed if all of them can fit into a car-length space. Councillor Coleman said this is not a revenue gesture, it is more for convenience. He said there are people that will ride motorcycles year-round, even in the rain, and that he is considering adding more parking spots in the future. Chair Hunter asked Councillor Coleman what other cities provide this service. Councillor Coleman said he does not have that information with him.

Mike Jezierski, member of American Bikers Aimed Toward Education (ABATE) member, said he is not speaking on behalf of Abate, but he is speaking as a motorcycle rider. He said because of weight and automatic gates, most garages do not allow motorcycle parking. He said parking downtown can be an inconvenience, especially if there is an event taking place. Mr. Jezierski said Indianapolis can take the lead on this gesture because of the Motorcycle Grand Prix (MotoGP). He said the reality is that most motorcyclists are a very good group of people.

Councillor Brian Mahern said downtown parking is at a real premium, and he asked Councillor Coleman if this proposal is for a total of six spots. Councillor Coleman answered in the affirmative. Councillor Brian Mahern asked the other committee members if their thoughts were based on the fact that car spots are being removed. Councillor Dane Mahern said they just need to do more review on this proposal, because it is a fairly big issue. He said he does not know what other cities do, and he would like to have more research on it. Councillor Coleman asked how many parking spaces are downtown. Mr. Laughlin said there are 3,200 parking spaces downtown. Councillor Coleman said there are 3,200 parking spaces downtown, and he is asking for six of them. Councillor McHenry asked Councillor Coleman if all parking garages downtown exclude motorcycles. Councillor Coleman said according to Mr. Jezierski, most garages exclude motorcycles, but not all of them. Mr. Jezierski said there is only one public garage downtown that allows for motorcycle parking. He said the state garage allows for motorcycle parking, but that it is reserved for state employees, and Circle Centre does not allow motorcycle parking.

Councillor Dane Mahern said he is not against this proposal, but motorcyclists currently have every right to the parking spaces that are already downtown. Councillor Mansfield moved, seconded by Councillor Dane Mahern, to "Table" Proposal No. 218, 2009. The motion carried by a vote of 5-2, with Councillors Brian Mahern and McHenry casting the negative votes.

PROPOSAL NO. 238, 2009 - approves a transfer of \$900,000 in the 2009 Budget of the Department of Public Works (Consolidated County Fund) to fund maintenance and repair costs for the City-County's vehicle fleet

Ron Stinson, Procurement Manager, Fleet Services, DPW, introduced John Williams, Administrator, Fleet Services. Mr. Stinson read a statement **attached as Exhibit A**. Chair Hunter asked Mr. Stinson to explain the transfer from Character 02, where it becomes net zero. Mr. Stinson said they currently have \$900,000 in Character 02, and they are making a transfer from Character 02 to Character 03; he said they are staying within their same budget. Mr. Stinson said they are not asking for an actual increase. Chair Hunter asked if this money is coming from the County Fund into DPW. Mr. Stinson said they are funded by the Consolidated General Fund. Chair Hunter asked Mr. Stinson if DPW is unable to draw from the COVANTA debt service. Mr. Stinson said they would like to transfer funds this way, because there is a surplus based on the fuel reduction costs. He said last year diesel fuel was approximately \$4.00 per gallon, and right now it is \$1.97 per gallon, and he is anticipating a savings there. Mr. Stinson said the other funding came from vehicles. Chair Hunter asked Mr. Stinson if he anticipates

that there will not be an issue with gasoline this year. Mr. Stinson answered in the affirmative. He said he feels there will be a surplus at the end of the year.

Councillor Dane Mahern asked if the \$900,000 is based on DPW getting the vehicles later than what they originally thought. Mr. Stinson said they thought they would be able to put some things together earlier last year to get things moving, but they did not get the fund established until February 2009. Everything covered by that particular funding has been ordered, and is processing. Councillor Dane Mahern asked Mr. Stinson if the process will run smoother in the future. Mr. Stinson said they already have the funding and bids in place with one-year terms, and the type of vehicle determines how soon they will receive the vehicle. He said they can at least get the vehicles ordered in January and move forward.

Councillor McHenry asked if there is a possibility that all of the \$900,000 will not be used, or if this is just an estimate. Mr. Stinson said this is an estimate, because they never know what situation they may encounter.

Councillor Moriarty Adams moved, seconded by Councillor Dane Mahern, to send Proposal No. 238, 2009 to the full Council with a "Do Pass" recommendation. The motion carried by a vote of 7-0.

PROPOSAL NO. 239, 2009 - establishes that the Council is interested in acquiring a real estate right-of-way and perpetual easement owned by ABC Petroleum, Inc. for a roadway improvement project on 10th Street

PROPOSAL NO. 240, 2009 - establishes that the Council is interested in acquiring real estate rights-of-way owned by Baird & Young, L.L.C. for a roadway improvement project on South Emerson Avenue

PROPOSAL NO. 241, 2009 - establishes that the Council is interested in acquiring real estate rights-of-way owned by Jiries Ishak for a roadway improvement project on South Emerson Avenue

PROPOSAL NO. 242, 2009 - establishes that the Council is interested in acquiring real estate rights-of-way owned by Jenco Investments, LLC for a roadway improvement project on South Emerson Avenue

Chair Hunter asked for consent to take Proposal Nos. 239-242, 2009 together. Consent was given. Chair Hunter asked for a motion to "Strike" Proposal Nos. 239- 242, 2009. He said that DPW advised him that these proposals will be federally funded, therefore, the committee will not have to move forward on them.

Councillor Moriarty Adams moved, seconded by Councillor Dane Mahern, to "Strike" Proposal Nos. 239-242, 2009. The motion carried by a vote of 7-0.

PROPOSAL NO. 243, 2009- approves and authorizes execution of an agreement between the City of Indianapolis and Hamilton County, Indiana, for the exercise of eminent domain authority and the construction of highway and drainage improvements in Marion and Hamilton Counties

Brad Davis, Hamilton County Highway Department, introduced Jim Johnson of the engineering firm Beam Wallace & Neff. Mr. Davis said they have come to get approval for a local construction project on 96th Street. He said this project is for improvements to the intersection of 96th Street and Towne Road, and 4,000 feet west of Towne Road to 96th Street. He said the current intersection cannot handle the existing traffic with a round-about. He said they will be making some roadway improvements to the west by widening lanes and adding shoulders to the existing 96th Street. Mr. Davis said he and Councillor Mansfield met because she expressed some concerns regarding the southwest corner, but they have found a solution as to how they will mitigate the impact at that corner.

Councillor Mansfield said that particular intersection used to be a country road, and there are buildings much closer to the intersection than other intersections. She said there is not that much of a right-of-way, and there is a tremendous amount of traffic. Councillor Mansfield said there are some unique challenges because there is a creek that flows through there as well as a lift station. She said they were limited as to where they could put the center of the round-about. Councillor Mansfield said she met with Mr. Davis mainly out of concern for the condominiums on the southwest corner. She said a plan has been devised to put in a retaining wall. She said Councillor Jose Evans has not met with his constituents, and she would like to give him that opportunity.

Councillor Mansfield moved, seconded by Councillor Moriarty Adams, to "Postpone" Proposal No. 243, 2009 until July 30, 2009. The motion carried by a vote of 7-0.

Chair Hunter asked Mr. Davis if he is working with Councillor Evans on this matter. Mr. Davis said Councillor Evans has not gotten in touch with him, nor did he attend a meeting at the site which he invited him to. Councillor Mansfield said that she gave Councillor Evans all of the contact information for Mr. Davis. Chair Hunter said hopefully Councillor Evans and Mr. Davis will be in contact by July 30, 2009.

PROPOSAL NO. 244, 2009 - authorizes school day parking restrictions on the north and south sides of Julian Avenue (District 21)

PROPOSAL NO. 245, 2009 - authorizes a change in parking restrictions on Pennsylvania Street between Ohio Street and New York Street (District 15)

PROPOSAL NO. 246, 2009 - authorizes intersection controls in the Orchard Valley Farms subdivision, Sections 4 and 5 (District 18)

PROPOSAL NO. 247, 2009 - authorizes intersection controls in the Cheswick Place subdivision, Sections 1 and 2A (Districts 7, 8)

PROPOSAL NO. 248, 2009 - authorizes a multi-way stop at the intersection of Beulah Avenue and Legrande Avenue (District 19)

PROPOSAL NO. 249, 2009 - authorizes a multi-way stop at the intersection of Patton and Suburban Drives (District 7)

PROPOSAL NO. 250, 2009 - authorizes intersection controls in the Copeland Mills Estates subdivision (District 22)

PROPOSAL NO. 251, 2009 - authorizes intersection controls in the Camby Village Triplex subdivision (District 22)

PROPOSAL NO. 252, 2009 - authorizes intersection controls in the Cedar Park subdivision, Sections 1 and 2 (District 22)

PROPOSAL NO. 253, 2009 - authorizes intersection controls at the intersection of Camby Village Boulevard and Kentucky Avenue (District 22)

Chair Hunter asked for consent to take Proposal Nos. 244-253, 2009 together. Consent was given. Chair Hunter asked Mr. Sheets if all Councillors had signed off and approved the proposals for consideration. Mr. Sheets answered in the affirmative.

Councillor Scales asked why Proposal No. 244, 2009 is necessary. Mr. Sheets said the proposal restricts parking on both sides of Julian Street during school hours. He said there is a charter school in that area on a narrow street. Mr. Sheets said in order to alleviate traffic flow in that area, they are recommending parking restrictions during school hours. Chair Hunter said that these restrictions are at the request of the principal of the charter school. He said he and the principal walked through that area, and there will only be two residences on both sides of the street affected.

Councillor Moriarty Adams moved, seconded by Councillor McHenry, to send Proposal Nos. 244-253, 2009 to the full Council with a "Do Pass" recommendation. The motion carried by a vote of 7-0.

PROPOSAL NO. 254, 2009 - authorizes changes in parking and parking meter zones on Meridian Street between 9th and St. Joseph Streets and on St. Joseph Street between Meridian and Scioto Streets (District 15)

Chair Hunter said that Councillor Minton-McNeill asked for this proposal to be "Postponed" until July 30, 2009. Councillor Moriarty Adams moved, seconded by Councillor Mansfield, to "Postpone" Proposal No. 254, 2009 until July 30, 2009. The motion carried by a vote of 7-0.

Glenn Pratt, citizen, thanked Chair Hunter and everyone on the committee for their work with the Air Pollution Authority. He said this is an example of everyone working together.

He said everyone, including the Sierra Club, National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP), City of Indianapolis, DPW committee, and the Chamber of Commerce, worked together to let the Indiana Department of Environmental Management (IDEM) know that the Air Pollution policies were unacceptable. Mr. Pratt said this is a health and economic development matter that will hurt Central Indiana in the long run unless there are some changes made. Senate Bill 461 was passed out of the House, but unfortunately, it did not make it out of the Senate. He said because of the new policy changes, the state now has 30 days to respond to an air pollution issue; whereas previously, the city would respond within a day. He said the state is saving overall \$2,000,000, but ultimately, these changes can cost Central Indiana tens of millions of dollars in economic development, as well as not being responsive to citizens. He said the state will now do the bare minimum, and the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has even sent a letter to the state questioning their policies. He said that he hopes that as the next budget year approaches, everyone will unite to let IDEM know that the city needs to have control over this program. Chair Hunter asked Mr. Pratt if it is fair to say that there may be a deficiency in the Office of Code Enforcement (OCE) and their ability to encompass this matter. Mr. Pratt said he would prefer to have the program as it was before, and he has a strong concern about what is happening with OCE. He said he does not understand OCE setting up a program that will pay for their operation by fines, instead of working with people to come to solutions. He said major responsibilities from Health and Hospital Corporation have been moved to OCE.

Councillor Scales told Mr. Pratt that she cannot speak to OCE being self-funding through fines, but her understanding is that the list of abandoned and foreclosed homes was infinite, and that Health and Hospital could not manage the volume. She said the oversight of the abandoned home program was shifted to OCE to help handle the volume. She said perhaps the thought is that this responsibility was shifted to OCE so that it could be a better organized process than it previously was. Mr. Pratt said his understanding is that there will be no additional staff in OCE to handle this workload, and his professional view is that there will be poor response, and more upset people under the new proposal. He said the city needs to focus more on how to keep people in homes. He said he guarantees that the service under the new program will be far less efficient, and far more bureaucratic than what it has been in the past.

There being no further business, and upon motion duly made, the meeting was adjourned at 6:34 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Benjamin Hunter, Chairman

BH/cj

APPROPRIATION OVERVIEW

The Indianapolis Fleet Services Division (IFS) requests an increase in its appropriation to character 03 from a transfer from character 02 in the amount of \$ 900,000. The need for this additional appropriation results from an under budgeting in character 03, sub-object 356002 Vehicle Equipment Repair, for fiscal year 2009 compared to the actual prior year spending. This was due to expectations of new vehicles being purchased and placed into service and the anticipated reduced needed maintenance costs. However, the initial purchase, delivery and getting them into service has not been as timely as needed to realize the anticipated costs savings. In addition, we need to continue to maintain the current aging fleet until we are able to receive and get the new vehicles into service. We have received a large portion of the vehicles for IMPD and they continue to get them prepped and into service. In March, we received the first three (3) Side Loader trucks for DPW, and in May received the first two (2) Snow trucks. We also recently initiated the purchase for an additional twenty-five (25) Snow trucks and nine (9) more Side Loaders. The additional units are expected in approximately one-hundred and eighty (180) to two hundred and ten (210) days. The new additions to the fleet will help to curtail these repair expenses. The 2009 Budget for character 03 Vehicle Repairs is \$ 771,082 compared to the actual prior year spending of \$ 1,657,000. As of June 30th, \$ 813,000 has been spent in equipment maintenance and repairs. Even though the City has invested in some newer vehicles, the remaining vehicles in our fleet are becoming older and require repairs beyond the normal maintenance. Latest projections show a short fall of \$ 887,000 in order to support spending through the end of the year.

Character 02 diesel fuel projected spending allows for a reduction of \$ 900,000. The character 02 savings has been due to the significant reduction of diesel fuel pricing compared to last year. The savings this year compared to last year per gallon cost is approximately \$ 1.55 to \$ 1.95 per gallon. Any unused budget for Character 3 will be returned at the end of the year to the Consolidated County General Fund. IFS will fund this increase with a transfer from character 02 savings for the full \$ 900,000. If granted, this request will have a net zero effect on the Consolidated County General Fund balance.